

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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JUL 5 1951

Admiral Forrest P. Sherman  
Chief of Naval Operations  
Navy Department  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Admiral Sherman:

By letter of 5 March, copy herewith, the Secretary of Defense was asked to consider having the military Services train for CIA a combined total of up to two hundred persons a year. The persons to be trained are college graduates who would be normally liable for military service but who intend to follow an intelligence career in the Agency. The proposed training would include basic and OCS, and such other Service training as is appropriate. This problem has been reviewed by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the Secretary of Defense has replied, by letter of 23 June, copy herewith.

25X1 The Secretary's letter gives us a basic authority upon which I believe we may now frame such programs as are mutually agreeable between the Agency and each individual Service. My Director of Training, Colonel Matthew Baird, USAF, and his Deputy, [redacted] are the CIA implementing officers on this program. I should like to have them discuss this proposal with whatever officers you care to designate with a view to setting up a basic training agreement, satisfactory to you and to me, for continuing training of a limited number of CIA personnel.

I appreciate the attention you have already given this problem as a member of the Joint Chiefs and am confident we can formulate a training plan that will bring lasting benefit to both CIA and the Navy.

Sincerely,

**34000**

Walter B. Smith  
Director

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